

# Morrill Tower

Herrick Archives Number 272

## A. IDENTIFICATION & LOCATION

### 1. Name

1.1 Officially named "Justin S. Morrill Tower" by Board of Trustees on November 11, 1965, in memory of "The Honorable Justin S. Morrill."

1.2 Alternate names noted:

Built under University Architect's project number A6416. Name on drawings is "Olentangy River Dormitory". Morrill is Building No. 1 and Lincoln (271) is Building No. 2 of this group. The name "River Tower Dormitory 1" has been noted.

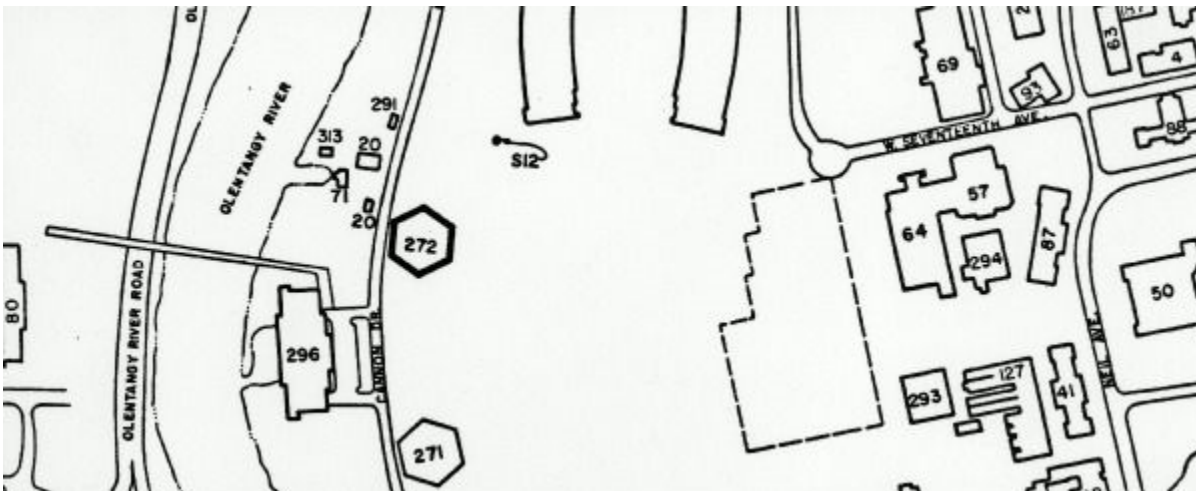
Morrill and Lincoln (271) Towers are frequently referred to at the "River Towers", the "River Dorms", or the "West Dorms".

See Addendum No. 2, 3

### 2. Location

2.1 Located at 1900 Cannon Drive. See map below.

2.2 For greater detail, see Sheets 94 and 95 in the book of campus maps in the University Archives.



For identification of other buildings shown, see Appendix A.

### 3. General Description

3.1 Type of construction:

Reinforced concrete frame with brick and concrete exterior.

3.2 No. of stories:

Twenty-six stories.

### 3.3 Increments of construction:

None--entire building constructed at one time.

### 3.4 Present area of building as shown in inventory records of Division of Campus Planning:

307, 484 sq. ft. gross; 220,896 sq. ft. net assignable

See Addendum No. 5

### 3.5 Volume of building:

3,340,800 cu. ft. (PP)

## B. PLANNING & CONSTRUCTION

1. On December 10, 1964 the Ohio State University Housing Commission approved the plans and related documents prepared by Schooley, Cornelius, Schooley, and authorized the solicitation of bids by contractors. These actions were reported to the Board of Trustees on March 11, 1965.

2. Bids were received on March 2, 1965 (T).

3. On March 4, 1965 the Ohio State University Housing Commission awarded contracts to the following contractors:

General: George F. Driscoll Co.

Electrical: Gustav-Hirsch Organization, Inc.

Heating & ventilating: Limback Co.

Plumbing: Huffman-Wolfe Co.

Kitchen equipment: S. Blickman, Inc.

### 4. Beginning of work:

Ground breaking ceremonies were held March 29, 1965 (L 3/30/65).

### 5. Completion and occupancy:

An open house was held August 8, 1967 celebrating the official completion (L 8/10/67).

The building opened for dormitory use at the beginning of the Autumn Quarter 1967 (H).

Students occupied 10 floors of the uncompleted building starting in the autumn 1966 quarter (H).

## C. MISCELLANEOUS

During the first year, certain academic departments used some of the rooms for office and related uses (P). Currently (1971) the University College uses one room as an office (P). With these exceptions, the building has been used as a coeducational dormitory (H) .

## D. COST

According to John Stottlemeyer, Residence Hall Accountant, the Lincoln and Morrill Towers are carried at \$16,973,663. Approximately half of this total would be attributable to each building.

## E. PHOTOGRAPHS

### 1. In Photoarchives:

The building on the right in Air Photo 481.

See Addendum No. 4

### 2. Other:

L 12/1/66

L 8/10/67

M 59: 1 (September 1967)

John H. Herrick  
October 25, 1972

**ADDENDUM NO. 1**

The address of Buildings 271/2 during construction was 1800 Stadium Dormitory Drive.

See M 59:4 (June, 1968) for story on fire in this building.

See S 39 and S 43 for gas house and storm lift station, respectively, serving Buildings 271-272.

John H. Herrick  
February 5, 1976

**ADDENDUM NO. 2**

The Board of Trustees on July 9, 1976 named the top half of this Building the "Conaway House" and the bottom half the "Ross House."

John H. Herrick  
March 16, 1977

**ADDENDUM NO. 3**

A current bulletin relative to traffic at the opening of the next quarter refers to Buildings 271 and 272 as "Olentangy Residence Halls."

John H. Herrick  
September 13, 1979

**ADDENDUM NO. 4**

This building is shown in Photograph X 25042.

John H. Herrick  
December 31, 1979

**ADDENDUM NO. 5**

Campus Planning records now show the net assignable area of this building as 220,805 square feet.

John H. Herrick  
November 9, 1984